Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 180854
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 180854

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT SEOUL 5391 ACTION SECSTATE JUNE 22.

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 5391

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: ADS, DECLAS 6/23/78
TAGS: PEPR KS KN
SUBJ: TEXT OF PRESIDENT PARK'S JUNE 23 STATEMENT

REF: A. SEOUL 5282, B. SEOUL 5324

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT PARK WHICH WILL BE ISSUED JUNE 23 AT 1000 HOURS SEOUL TIME. MOFA PROVIDED ADVANCE COPY AT

2000 HOURS JUNE 22 SEOUL TIME.

BEGIN TEXT:

DEAR FELLOW COUNTRYMEN,
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PAGE 02 STATE 180854

IT WAS FIVE YEARS AGO TODAY THAT I ANNOUNCED TO THE WORLD THE SPE-CIAL STATEMENT REGARDING FOREIGN POLICY FOR PEACE AND UNIFICATION.

THE BASIC SPIRIT OF THE STATEMENT WAS, IN SUM, THAT WHILE CO-EXISTING PEACEFULLY PENDING MATURITY OF VARIOUS CONDITIONS ESSENTIAL TO THE PEACEFUL UNIFICATION OF OUR FATHERLAND, THE SOUTH AND THE

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

NORTH WOULD ENGAGE IN DIALOGUE; WOULD STRIVE TOGETHER, THROUGH EXCHANGES AND COOPERATION, TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE AND PROSPERITY OF ALL OUR COMPATRIOTS, IN BOTH THE SOUTH AND THE NORTH; AND WOULD, STEP BY
STEP, LAY A SOLID FOUNDATION FOR PEACEFUL UNIFICATION.

IT IS WITH THIS OBJECTIVE UPPERMOST IN OUR MINDS THAT WE HAVE ENDEAVORED UNREMITTINGLY TO EASE TENSION AND ESTABLISH A LASTING PEACE

ON THIS PENINSULA.

IN THE SAME SPIRIT, WE PROPOSED BONA FIDE COMPETITIONS BETWEEN THE SOUTH AND THE NORTH IN THE AUGUST 15 DECLARATION IN 1970 AND A SOUTH-NORTH RED CROSS CONFERENCE IN 1971, AND WE OPENED THE DOOR FOR THE SOUTH-NORTH DIALOGUE BY INITIATING THE HISTORIC SOUTH-NORTH JOINT COMMUNIQUE OF 4TH JULY, 1972.

FURTHER IN JANUARY 1974, IN ORDER TO ADD SUBSTANCE TO THE JUNE 23 DECLARATION, I PROPOSED TO THE NORTH KOREAN SIDE THE CONCLUSION OF A SOUTH-NORTH MUTUAL NON-AGGRESSION AGREEMENT. IN AUGUST THAT YEAR, I PUT FORWARD THREE BASIC PRINCIPLES FOR PEACEFUL UNIFICATION WHICH, IN ESSENCE, ARE MUTUAL NON-AGGRESSION, EXCHANGES AND COOPERATION, AND, ULTIMATELY, FREE GENERAL ELECTIONS THROUGHOUT KOREA.

HOWEVER, THE NORTH KOREAN COMMUNISTS NOT ONLY REJECTED OUR PEACE
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PROPOSALS BUT WENT SO FAR AS TO UNILATERALLY BREAK OFF THE SOUTH-NORTH DIALOGUE WHICH WAS TO MEET THE ASPIRATION OF THE 50 MILLION COMPATRIOTS.

IN RECENT MONTHS, THE NORTH KOREAN COMMUNISTS ARE REPEATING PREPOSTEROUS
INSISTENCE UPON THE SO-CALLED DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES, WHILE REFUSING DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE SOUTH AND THE NORTH OF KOREA WHICH ARE THE DIRECTLY CONCERNED PARTIES TO THE KOREAN PROBLEM.

IT CANNOT BUT BE ASSUMED THAT THEIR ULTERIOR MOTIVE IS STILL
TO ACHIEVE UNIFICATION BY THE COMMUNIZATION OF THE WHOLE OF KOREA BY FORCE.

LET ME EMPHATICALLY REITERATE THAT THE UNIFICATION OF THE FATHERLAND MUST BE ACHIEVED ONLY BY PEACEFUL MEANS AND THAT THE MOST REALISTIC AND FEASIBLE MEANS OF ESTABLISHING A LASTING PEACE IS
TO SOLVE ONE BY ONE THE EASIER AND MORE PRACTICAL ISSUES WHILE BUILDING UP MUTUAL TRUST THROUGH DIALOGUE.

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

IT IS IN THIS CONTEXT THAT WE PROPOSED IN THE JUNE 23 DECLARATION
THE SIMULTANEOUS ENTRY OF THE SOUTH AND THE NORTH INTO THE
UNITED NATIONS AS AN INTERIM MEASURE PENDING THE MATURITY OF THOSE
CONDITIONS ESSENTIAL TO UNIFICATION AND THAT WE HAVE OPENED OUR DOOR
EVEN TO THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH DIFFER FROM US IN POLITICAL IDEOLOGY
AND INSTITUTION.

THIS, AND THIS ALONE, IS THE SHORT-CUT TO PEACEFUL UNIFICATION.

THE PREVAILING TREND TODAY IN THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY IS TO
SOLVE PROBLEMS THROUGH DIALOGUE, AND IT IS THE GENERAL TENDENCY
TO PURSUE WAYS TO EXPAND MUTUAL EXCHANGES AND COOPERATION FOR PRACTIC-
AL
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TRANSCENDING POLITICAL IDEOLOGY AND INSTITUTION.
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I ONCE AGAIN URGE THE NORTH KOREAN SIDE TO ABANDON ITS DELUSION
OF UNIFICATION BY FORCEFUL MEANS, TO RESPOND TO OUR CALL FOR UNCON-
DITIONAL REACTIVATION OF THE EXISTING CHANNELS OF DIALOGUE AND TO
CONCLUDE A MUTUAL NON-AGGRESSION AGREEMENT,AND THEREBY TO JOIN US IN
EFFORTS TO RELIEVE TENSION BETWEEN THE SOUTH AND THE NORTH AND TO
PROMOTE COEXISTENCE AND COPROSPERITY.
FOR THE SAKE OF THE FUTURE HISTORY OF OUR NATION AND OF THE WELFARE
OF
THE 50 MILLION COMPATRIOTS WHO SHARE ONE BLOOD, I PROPOSE THE
CREATION OF A "CONSULTATIVE BODY FOR THE PROMOTION OF SOUTH-NORTH
ECONOMIC COOPERATION" COMPRISING REPRESENTATIVES OF CIVILIAN ECON-
OMIC CIRCLES OF BOTH SIDES IN ORDER TO OPEN THE PATH FOR, AND PROMOTE
EFFECTIVELY, MUTUAL TRADE AND TECHNICAL AND CAPITAL COOPERATION.
FURTHER I MAKE IT CLEAR THAT WE ARE READY TO HOLD A PERTINENT
MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE WITH THE NORTH, IF NECESSARY.

CONVINCED THAT, SHOULD THIS PROPOSAL MATERIALIZE, IT COULD SIGNI-
FICANTLY CONTRIBUTE NOT ONLY TO THE WELFARE OF ALL KOREANS BUT
ALSO TO THE PEACE AND PROSPERITY OF THE KOREAN PENINSULA AND TO THE
PEACEFUL UNIFICATION OF OUR FATHERLAND, I EXPECT THE NORTH KOREAN
AUTHORITIES TO RESPOND TO IT OPEN-MINDEDLY.

MY DEAR COMPATRIOTS,

IT IS OUR NATIONAL ASPIRATION AND THE CHERISHED DESIRE OF THE 50
MILLION KOREANS TO BUILD A PROSPEROUS WELFARE SOCIETY AND TO ACHIEVE
PEACEFUL UNIFICATION OF OUR FATHERLAND.

IT IS FOR THE SAKE OF THE EARLY ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THESE TASKS
THAT WE, IN THE FACE OF NUMEROUS TRIALS AND DIFFICULTIES, HAVE
DEVOTED OURSELVES TO THE BUILD-UP OF OUR NATIONAL STRENGTH AND
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EXERTED EVERY EFFORT TO EASE TENSION AND ESTABLISH PEACE.

HEART-BREAKING INDEED IS THE REALITY TODAY THAT THE THREAT OF WAR REMAINS UNABATED ON THIS PENINSULA IN SPITE OF ALL OUR ARDENT DESIRES
,
AND IT BEHOOVES BOTH THE SOUTH AND THE NORTH TO RESPOND HUMBLY TO THE CALL OF THE NATION AND TO MAKE JOINT EFFORTS TO CLEAR THE DARK CLOUDS AWAY.

THE PATH TOWARD PEACEFUL UNIFICATION WILL CERTAINLY OPEN IF ALL OUR PEOPLE ARE FIRMLY RESOLVED AND UNITED IN THE QUEST FOR PEACE AND PROSPERITY OF THE FATHERLAND, NO MATTER WHATEVER TRIALS AND CHALLENGES MAY COME.

LET US ALL STRIDE ALONG THE ROYAL ROAD TOWARD PEACEFUL UNIFICATION AND NATIONAL RENAISSANCE.

23RD JUNE, 1978 END TEXT STERN
UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
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